

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/059533 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06F 17/30**

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(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2003/005699

(22) International Filing Date:
31 December 2003 (31.12.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0230331.1 31 December 2002 (31.12.2002) GB
0322862.4 30 September 2003 (30.09.2003) GB

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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

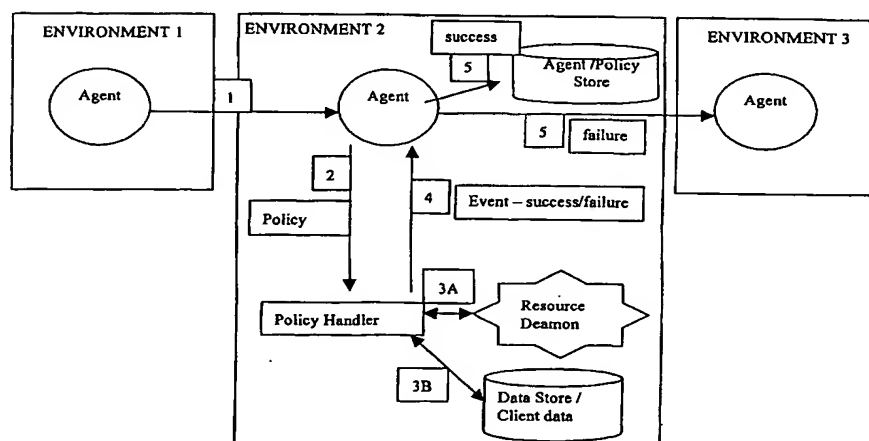
Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
20 January 2005

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **DISTRIBUTED STORAGE NETWORK**



(57) Abstract: A distributed storage network of computers is disclosed in which a determination as to whether to store a data item at a computer connected to said network is made in dependence on a policy document associated with that data item. The policy document is constructed in accordance with a Document Type Definition expressed in eXtensible Markup Language (XML).



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/GB 03/05699

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G06F17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	ROBERTSON D ET AL: "Persistent, Reliable, Decentralised File Storage - DFS"	1, 15-19
Y	LONDON COMMUNICATIONS SYMPOSIUM, XX, XX, 9 September 2002 (2002-09-09), pages 1-4, XP002302658 cited in the application the whole document	2-14
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☐ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

02/12/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter Application No

PCT/GB 03/05699

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	SMITHSON A ET AL: "Engineering an agent-based peer-to-peer resource discovery system" AGENTS AND PEER-TO-PEER COMPUTING. FIRST INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP, AP2PC 2002. REVISED AND INVITED PAPERS (LECTURE NOTES IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE VOL.2530) SPRINGER-VERLAG BERLIN, GERMANY, 15 July 2002 (2002-07-15), pages 69-80, XP002302657 ISBN: 3-540-40538-0	2-14
A	the whole document	1,15-19
A	WEATHERSPOON H ET AL: "Silverback: A global-scale archival system" INTERNET, March 2001 (2001-03), pages 1-15, XP002302722 BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA abstract; sections 3.1, 3.3., 4.3, 4.3.1	1-19
A	MOJO NATION DOCS: "Technology Overview of Mojo Nation" INTERNET, 14 February 2000 (2000-02-14), pages 1-5, XP002177454 the whole document	1-19